

Remarks

Claims 1, 3-15 are at issue. Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Kawaguchi (USPN 6,278,637). Claims 3-8 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 9-15 are allowable.

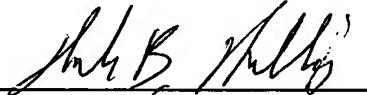
The limitations of claim 2 have been incorporated into claim 1. All claims should now be allowable.

Prompt reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

(Rezeanu)

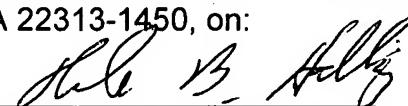
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